AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 (currently amended) Fine particles, comprising:

at least one type polymer selected from the group consisting of a polyolefin of and a polyolefin copolymer; and

at least one type of magnetic material;

wherein the particles being are substantially spherical particles having a density of 0.9 to 1.5 g/cc and an average particle size of 0.5 μ m to 1,000 μ m; and

the particles <u>having have a functional group</u> on the particle surface a functional group.

- 2 (currently amended) The fine particles according to Claim 1, wherein the polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of a polypropylene, and/or a polyethylene, and mixtures thereof, and the polyolefin copolymer is selected from the group consisting of a propylene copolymer, and/or an ethylene copolymer, and mixtures thereof.
- 3 (currently amended) The fine particles according to either Claim 1 or 2, wherein the functional group is at least one type group selected from the group consisting of a carboxyl group, an amino group, a hydroxyl group, a sulfonic acid group, and a glycidyl group.
- 4 (currently amended) The fine particles according to Claim 3, wherein the functional group is selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) a functional group in a graft polymer formed by subjecting particles to surface graft polymerization,
- (2) a functional group bonded to an aliphatic hydrocarbon that has-been kneaded with the particles and is present on the particle surface, or ; and
- (3) a functional group in a monomer that has been comonomeric unit copolymerized into a main-chain of the polyolefin copolymer.
- 5 (currently amended) The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 $\underline{2}$, wherein the average particle size is 1.0 μ m to 100 μ m.
- 6 (currently amended) The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to $\frac{1}{2}$, wherein the density is 1.0 to 1.1 g/cc.
- 7 (currently amended) The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to $\frac{6}{2}$, wherein the magnetic material is a soft magnetic material.
- 8 (currently amended) The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to $\neq 2$, wherein the magnetic material is a superparamagnetic substance.
- 9 (currently amended) The fine particles according to Claim 7, wherein the soft magnetic material is selected from the group consisting of a manganese-zinc ferrite, and/or a nickel-zinc ferrite, and a mixture thereof.
- (currently amended) The fine particles according to any one of Claims 1 to $\frac{9}{2}$, wherein the content of the magnetic material is 10 to 25 wt % relative to the total weight of the fine particles.